

## **CLAYTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**

**Monday, January 7, 2013**

**The Center of Clayton – Multipurpose Room C**

**Members present:** Mimi Deem, Michelle Harris, Darryl Higuchi, Andrea Maddox-Dallas, Eric Schneider and Melanie Tamsky

**Absent:** Ira Berkowitz, Brad Bernstein, Marguerite Garrick, Laurel Harrington and Mark Stapleton

*Also Present:* Patty DeForrest, Eric Gruenenfelder and Denise Ucinski.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes from the December meeting were not approved because there was no quorum.

### **Addresses from the Audience:**

There were no addresses from the audience.

### **FY 2012 End of Year Financial Report:**

Ms. DeForrest and Mr. Gruenenfelder presented the FY12 End of Year Financial Report. (See attached report for additional details). Performance scorecard measures are used to track total number of program participants, cost per program participant, recreation facility attendance, resident satisfaction with parks and recreation services, and how these numbers affect the budget. In FY12 92% percent of residents surveyed were satisfied with parks and recreation services; the FY13 goal is 95%. The percentage of households with one or more recreation pass holders in FY12 was 30.47%, which is a slight increase from FY11. Total number of annual program participants increased; however the cost per program participant decreased. Measures of parks standards are set by the parks department.

Year end budget highlights: there was a 22% increase in special event revenue from FY11, revenue increased at the aquatic center, ice rink, in youth and adult sports leagues and in Boot Camp. The FY12 project summary included project improvements made to Shaw Park recreation facilities, Taylor and Wydown Park. Municipal Parks Grants helped defer the costs of the Hanley House Pavilion and the Shaw Park Tennis Center.

### **Project Update:**

The Enterprise Holdings Pavilion bid opening will take place on Tuesday, January 8. James Surls, sculpture, *Molecular Bloom with Single Flower*, will be installed this summer. The porches at the Hanley House will be completed within the next six weeks. There was a slight change to the ADA ramp in the back of the house which will allow for more gathering space. The Hanley House Windows bid will be opened on Monday, January 14.

The Clayton Century Foundation (CCF) received the Anderson Dog Park funds. A small amount of dog park design work needs to be completed. Construction will begin in the spring. At this time, no one is soliciting other donors for the dog park.

The City did not receive the Oak Knoll Playground grant. This project may take place in 2014. Ms. DeForrest said the Clayton Early Childhood Center is happy with this situation because it gives them more time to raise money.

### **Director's Report:**

Ms. DeForrest distributed the approved park project list for CCF fundraising. The CCF will consider the list at their board meeting. Most of the projects are in the City's Master Plan. Mr. Gary Carter is working on downtown Clayton projects. Center of Clayton improvements (in cooperation with the School District of Clayton) will be discussed with the CRSWC.

Installation of a heating and cooling system for the Shaw Park Aquatic Center may be considered. The approximate cost is between \$80,000 and \$90,000. Before a system would be installed, the City would look into additional operating costs. A natural playground at the Clayton Family Center is another potential project. Ms. DeForrest met with staff at the Family Center about the playground. She will assist them in locating potential grant opportunities to help fund the playground. Further, recreation staff is interested in having an aqua climbing wall at the Shaw Park Aquatic Center. Options for fields five and six will be explored in three years. Artificial turf is a consideration because of the location of these fields, and improvements made to turf.

Mr. Higuchi spoke about the lack of gym space for the Clayton Junior Greyhounds during basketball season. Ms. DeForrest explained that everyone's leagues and club sports are growing; more players means more demands on space. The no cut policy at Clayton High School also contributes to this issue. Junior Greyhounds have only met with the City once to discuss gym usage which was several years ago. It was suggested that Mr. Higuchi discuss his concerns with the school district and speak to staff in the Athletic Department at Washington University about the potential of using the gym at Wash U's campus at the old CBC site.

Ms. DeForrest informed the Commission that the Livable Community action team held their first meeting. One of their strategic initiatives identified the Parks and Recreation Commission as a valuable resource. The team will attend an upcoming Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, and may ask for volunteers. Making Clayton Parks Wi-Fi is another initiative; Shaw Park would be the first park to have Wi-Fi.

Four hundred fifty people were at the ice rink on New Year's Eve. Mr. Gruenenfelder was satisfied with the crowd but had hoped to see more participation. Ms. DeForrest informed the Commission that The Center was very busy on New Year's Day. One hundred fifty Centennial T-shirts were given away within twenty minutes. New Year's Day usage increased by 50% this year in comparison to 2012, which was the first year The Center was open on this holiday.

The rink season is going very well. Seventy-two percent of the projected daily admission revenue and 82% of the projected skate rental revenue has been acquired. Ice rental revenue is on track to make budget.

A Centennial Festival will take place in Shaw Park on October 5. A planning meeting will be held on Friday, January 18. The plan is to make this a big event for the community.

**Old Business / New Business:**

There was no old or new business to report

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted By:

Denise Ucinski